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March 20, 2006

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
Charlema R Grant, Petitions Attorney
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Dear Ms. Grant:

Thank you for responding to my request to withdraw the holding of abandonment. I would like to request reconsideration, and am filing this with you by fax immediately. In the meantime, I will have the necessary drawings prepared for my patent filing. I was unaware that I could submit these drawings while this matter was under review.

You have dismissed my petition to withdraw based on the following: "failure to timely submit a complete set of corrected drawings" in response to a request from Son Lam, dated 10/28/04. You also state that "further, to the extent there was confusion or uncertainty as to the requirements, petitioner could have sought clarification from the draftsman whose number was provided in the notice."

After receiving the notice, I did contact Son Lam for clarification, however, due to a language barrier, I had difficulty understanding Son Lam, so I contacted Jason Prone.

As stated on my first request to withdraw the holding of abandonment, I contacted the Examiner, Jason Prone, who had been assisting me with my patent application, as the attorneys fees had emptied my bank account. I spoke with him on 12/08/04, and asked for help with the request from Son Lam. Jason faxed me his instructions to comply with the notice. I had no reason to think that his instructions would be incorrect. After I received the notice of abandonment, I contacted Jason to ask why the response was not accepted, and at that point, he looked back in his files/computer, and acknowledged that he had not fully read the instructions. Again, I am not a professional, and have no experience with patents. I was fully relying on Mr Prone, assuming that since he was employed by the USPTO, that he was knowledgeable, and had more experience in this process than I.

Again, had I meant to abandon my patent, I would not have responded to the notice. I did respond in a timely manner, according to instructions given me by a USPTO employee. Had Son Lam contacted me and said that my response was incorrect, I would have made the necessary changes immediately.

Your letter also states that "petitioner has yet to comply with the Notice Regarding Drawings by sending in a complete set of corrected drawings." I have not yet sent these drawings in, as I was waiting to hear the response to my request to withdraw the holding of abandonment, which was originally sent to your office on March 1, 2005. I just today received an answer to this letter.

I apologize for not being knowledgeable in the area of patents and filing for patents. This is my first (and probably last) attempt at filing for a patent, even though I have several other ideas on paper. This process has been both exciting at times, and discouraging. I originally filed for this patent in 2001, and was "assisted" by a patent attorney, who succeeded only in emptying my bank account.

I am asking that you withdraw the holding of abandonment on my patent so I can finally finish the process without incurring extra added fees and expenses. If you believe that I need to hire an attorney to finish the process, then I will do so. Please reconsider, it means everything to me at this point.

Sincerely,

Julie Watson-Backenkeller -- ph:608-758-3253 fax:608-758-4649



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